



MINUTES
Committee on City Operations
Wednesday, March 20, 2024 @ 4:00 p.m.
City Council Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Jackson called the meeting to order at 4:00p.m.

PRESENT

Council Member Jackson, Chair
Council Member Hussain, Vice-Chair
Council Member Kost, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Renee Richmond, Council Administrative Assistant
Emily Linden, Internal Auditor
Lisa Hagen-Lawrence, OCA
Walter Allen, Code Compliance Manager
Nick Montry, Deputy Director EDP
Martel (Mark) King Jackson, Gridiron Marketing Group
Damian Gregory, Gridiron Marketing
Andy Kilpatrick, Director Dept. Public Service
Scott Cook, Dept. Public Service
Marc Jones, Dept. Public Service

MINUTES

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO AMEND THE MINUTES TO REFLECT COUNCILMEMBER JACKSON CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER, AND THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MOTION OF FEBRUARY 21, 2024 TO 3-0, AND UNDER DISCUSSION IT READS OVER 1,000 VIOLATIONS AND SHOULD BE OVER \$1,000 IN VIOLATIONS. MOTION TO AMEND CARRIED 3-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Gregory introduced himself, stating he grew up and went to school in Lansing and now lives in Florida but invests in Lansing. Talked about buying properties and fixing them up, has bought several from the landbank, his company Gridiron Marketing Group has gone above and beyond and has a commitment as a business owner for Lansing.

Discussion/Action

RESOLUTION – Claim Appeal; Claim #2017, Gridiron Marketing Group LLC for \$900 in red tag fees at 831 N. Chestnut Street

Mr. Montry stated to date all permits have been approved and final, rental inspection is paid and set for April 17th. Councilmember Jackson asked how many have been pulled, Mr. Montry responded he didn't have numbers but plumbing, electric, building, mechanical, tear out, and roof.

Mr. King stated Gridiron purchased the property in October 2020 and consider themselves a good player and provide affordable housing. He expressed concern over how the Ordinance reads and asked the ED&P Dept. to review it, as it isn't good for developers. Councilmember Kost asked Ms. Hagen-Lawrence if the Committee has jurisdiction in overriding the red tag fees, she responded in terms of the Claim yes, also the ordinance is clear if a property is red tagged it is subject to the monitoring fees assessed. Mr. Montry commented that when properties are bought with red tagged fees attached the buyers are aware, discretion may have been used in the past however the department has agreed to enforce across the board. Councilmember Jackson asked if a property is tagged and not inspected in a timely manner then it will prolong and add extra fees, Mr. Allen disagreed. Mr. Montry reiterated they enforce the ordinance as written, and code officers still go out monthly and monitor the property. Mr. Allen continued code is out the same day or next and an expired permit or disapproved permit will postpone.

Councilmember Jackson expressed concern over holding owners accountable when they are making improvements but not living in the property. Mr. King and Mr. Gregory both stated the property was red tagged since 2006, they bought it in 2020, and when they called code, they were told they were not responsible for the fees since they were actively working on it.

Councilmember Jackson passed the gavel to Councilmember Hussain.

MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBER JACKSON TO GRANT THE CLAIM APPEAL #2017, GRIDIRON MARKETING GROUP LLC FOR \$900 IN RED TAG FEES AT 831 N. CHESTNUT STREET. MOTION FAILED 2-1.

Councilmember Hussain passed the gavel to Councilmember Jackson.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO DENY THE CLAIM APPEAL #2017, GRIDIRON MARKETING GROUP LLC FOR \$900 IN RED TAG FEES AT 831 N. CHESTNUT STREET. MOTION CARRIED 2-1.

RESOLUTION – Set a Public Hearing on a Noise Special Permit; Michigan Department of Transportation request to allow for work activities to take place on I-496/US-127

Mr. Kilpatrick stated it was back at Committee to re-set the public hearing as notice was not sent properly, and nothing has changed.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON A NOISE SPECIAL PERMIT FOR THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION REQUEST TO ALLOW FOR WORK ACTIVITIES TO TAKE PLACE ON I-496/UD-127. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Mr. Kilpatrick added, they have clarified the process to MDOT for proper notification.

RESOLUTION – Noise Special Permit; Hoffman Brothers Inc. to allow for Combined Sewer Overflow 016/017 Phase 2 Project

Mr. Jones stated the hearing was held last Monday, and there was no public comment.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE NOISE SPECIAL PERMIT FOR HOFFMAN BROTHERS INC. TO ALLOW FOR COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW 016/017 PHASE 2 PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Set a Public Hearing on a Noise Special Permit; Hoffman Brothers request to allow for the Michigan Avenue Reconstruction Project

Mr. Cook stated the request is to work on Saturdays only when needed, it is a big project and hope to lessen the timeframe.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION TO SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON A NOISE SPECIAL PERMIT FOR HOFFMAN BROTHERS REQUEST TO ALLOW FOR THE MICHIGAN AVENUE RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Act 51 Street Certification; Red Cedar Development, Cascade Blvd. and Red Cedar Pkwy. For a total length of 2,882.82 feet

Mr. Cook informed the Committee this has reached qualification to be added to be certified so they can submit to MDOT and add to the streets. Mr. Kilpatrick added they have a maintenance agreement with the developer i.e. snow clearing and day-to-day stuff is being taken care of. Mr. Cook finished that this is only certifying half the road, so next year they will add they rest.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR ACT 51 STREET CERTIFICATION; RED CEDAR DEVELOPMENT, CASCADE BLVD. AND RED CEDAR PKWY. FOR A TOTAL LENGTH OF 2,882.82 FEET. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Act 51 Street Certification; Riverfront Drive for a total of 1,536 feet

Mr. Kilpatrick mentioned City Market Blvd/Museum Dr etc. never got funding, the parcel under the Lansing Center is owned by the city but is public and city maintaining.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR ACT 51 STREET CERTIFICATION; RIVERFRONT DRIVE FOR A TOTAL OF 1,536 FEET. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Act 51 Decertification; various streets for a total of 1,943 feet

Mr. Cook stated this is the opposite of the other two, it is a six street segment, decertification because they don't meet the qualifications. Councilmember Hussain asked if there was a financial hit, Mr. Kilpatrick no. Councilmember Kost mentioned Island Ave and Mr. Cook stated the East end and Mr. Kilpatrick answered they will clarify if open to the public across the river.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER KOST TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR ACT 51 STREET DECERTIFICATION OF VARIOUS STREETS FOR A TOTAL OF 1,943 FEET. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Other

Adjourn

Adjourned at 4:43pm

Submitted by Renee Richmond

Recording Secretary, Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee with Amendments on April 3, 2024